

**Grading Rubric: Storymaps
(HONR 278Q)**

Content (50%)

Clear Argument
Scientifically accurate information
Complete and thorough research
Clearly shows links between biodiversity, goods & services & Human health/well-being
Quantifies benefits of biodiversity (and/or damages from loss)
Clear and logical connection to associated images and maps
Relevant choices of both scientific & non-scientific references

Writing/Text (20%)

Clarity of writing
Style – no jargon; interesting use of language
2-3 points supporting one specific message
Good use of effective storytelling tools & skills
Paragraphs have strong topic sentences link to each other in a logical way
Principal question returned to, deepened, and clarified
Appropriate use of citations in text, images, maps; complete list included at end

Appearance (25%)

Includes Map(s) – numbers, usefulness, complexity, content
Includes pop-ups with data, tables, text, and/or pictures
Design – aesthetically pleasing, easy to read, appropriate colors & fonts
Logical organization and layout
Clear and logical connection to associated text and data

Creativity (5%)

Innovative idea or design or content
Creative use of language

Broader relevance & importance

Rating Characteristics

- A *Exceptional.* The post fulfills all the above conditions in a thorough and well-organized manner. The Storymap is original, scientifically compelling, attractive, and shows creativity. It goes beyond description and demonstrates points with explanations or analysis. The Storymap clearly relates to the course theme. The Storymap demonstrates awareness of its own limitations or implications, and it considers multiple perspectives when appropriate. The Storymap reflects in-depth engagement with the topic.
- B *Satisfactory.* The Storymap fulfills most the above conditions in a thorough and well-organized manner. It shows moderate levels of originality, scientifically compelling content, attractiveness, and creativity. The Storymap is reasonably focused, and explanations or analysis support most points. The Storymap somewhat relates to the course theme. Fewer connections are made between ideas, and though new insights are offered, they are not always fully developed. The Storymap reflects moderate engagement with the topic.
- C *Underdeveloped.* The Storymap fulfills some the above conditions but may not be thoroughly researched or well-organized. It shows low levels of originality, scientifically compelling content, attractiveness, and creativity. The Storymap is mostly descriptive without analysis or explanations. It mostly lacks consideration of alternative perspectives, and few connections are made between ideas. The Storymap demonstrates limited awareness of its own limitations or implications, and does not consider multiple perspectives when appropriate. The Storymap somewhat relates to the course theme, and reflects only passing engagement with the topic.
- D *Limited.* The Storymap fulfills few of the above conditions in a thorough and well-organized manner. It shows very low levels of originality, scientifically compelling content, attractiveness, and creativity. The Storymap is primarily descriptive and lacks analysis or explanations. It is unfocused, or simply rehashes previous comments, and displays very little evidence of student engagement with the topic. The Storymap demonstrates very little awareness of its own limitations or implications, and does not consider multiple perspectives when appropriate. Little or no explicit connection to the course theme.